



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT EXAMINING OPERATIONS

#19
11/15/02

Applicant: Seiji Yamashita **Group Art Unit:** 1741
Serial No.: 09/507,212 **Examiner:** Tran, T
Filed: February 18, 2000 **Docket No.:** P 00 572.006
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REDUCING
CONTAMINATION IN A PLASTIC CONTAINER

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail under 37 CFR 1.08 addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this 25 day of October 2002.

L.H. Rouske
L.H. Rouske

Birdwell, Janke & Durando, PLC
1100 SW Sixth Avenue, Suite 1400
Portland, OR 97204

October 22, 2002

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DECLARATION OF PHILIP R. WATSON

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington DC 20231

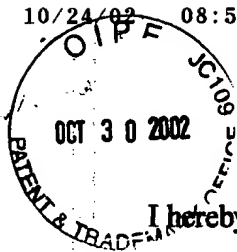
Greetings:

I, Philip R. Watson declare:

1. I am a Professor of Chemistry at Oregon State University. I have a B.A. in Natural Sciences from Oxford University, and a Ph.D. from the University of British Columbia. I have 25 years of experience in research into surface chemistry applied to the manufacture and performance of

advanced materials, catalysis and vacuum technology. I have over 60 publications in peer-reviewed literature, one book, and three book chapters.

2. I have reviewed U.S. Patent No. 6,235,358 to Goto ("Goto") pertaining to a packing container and a container closure having a coating layer on an outside surface of an ultraviolet curable epoxy resin, a photo-cationic-curing catalyst, a sensitizer and a pigment comprising titanium dioxide.
3. In my opinion, the coating layer of Goto containing the epoxy resin would only absorb about 1%-2% of its weight of water vapor.
4. In my opinion, substantially all of this small amount of water vapor absorbed would be trapped in the epoxy resin matrix and therefore would not be present on the surface of the coating.
5. In my opinion, the epoxy resin would tend to coat the titanium dioxide molecules making it unlikely that any substantial portion of the water vapor that is absorbed into the epoxy resin matrix would come into contact with the titanium dioxide molecules.
6. For all of these reasons, it is my opinion that the coating disclosed in Goto would not provide titanium dioxide molecules in a form that makes them available to form a hydrophilic surface on a container to facilitate cleaning the container.



I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful and false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or my patent issued thereon.

10/24/02
Date


Professor Philip R. Watson

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